[Translation]

Regularisation of Encroachments on Forest Land

3184. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :
SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent proposals for regularisation of encroachments on forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such proposals lying pending with the Central Government; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Three proposals have been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh for regularisation under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of encroachments on forest land. The status of these proposals is as under:—

S. No.	Name of State	District	Area(ha.)	Present status
1.	Madhya Pradesh	All districts	1,03,000.000	State Government had submitted proposal for diversion of 2.73 lakhs ha. of forest land. Approval for diversion of 1.03 lakh ha. was accorded in July, 1990 in favour of encroachers found eligible as per eligibility criteria fixed by State Govt.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	All districts	1,77,938.431	Proposals are under process.
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Khargone	3,773.349	

(d) Expeditious action is taken by the Ministry to decide the proposals on merits after complete details and site inspection reports are received in the Ministry.

[English]

Production of Coconut in Kerala

3185. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coconut produced per hectare during each of the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) the ample production of coconut in Kerala in comparison to other States, State-wise;

(c) whether the production of coconut is declining year by year in Kerala;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to fix the minimum support price of coconut/copra;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether the Coconut Development Board has made any plan to promote coconut cultivation and increase its production in the country particularly in Kerala; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) The average production of coconut in India per hectare was 7324, 7760 & 7779 nuts during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively. Kerala is leading State in Coconut production and it is not declining. The State-wise details are given in the Statement attached.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The minimum support price was asked for Rs. 5000.00 per quintal for Coconut. The

minimum support price for Copra for 1997 season is fixed at Rs. 2700 and Rs. 2925 per quintal for milling copra and ball copra respectively.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) The Coconut Development Board is implementing several programmes in Kerala State which includes the production of quality planting material, area expansion, improving productivity, development of technology on product diversification and by-product utilisation etc.

Besides, assistance on drip irrigation is also available under the scheme on the use of Plastics in Agriculture.

Statement

All India Area, Production and Productivity of Coconut for the last three years

State/Union Territories	Production of Coconut (Million Nuts)			Productivity (Nuts per hectare)		
	1993-94 (Revised)	1994-95 (Revised)	1995-96 Estimate	1993-94 (Revised)	1994-95 (Revised)	1995-96 Estimate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1103.5	1181.4	1231.4	13811	13642	13682
Assam	116.5	117.6	126.2	6734	6607	7090
Goa	116.0	118.0	110.0	4833	4707	4818
Karnataka	1308.0	1364.1	1406.5	5172	5171	5221
Kerala	5197.0	5335.1	5905.7	5890	5856	6013
Maharashtra	148.5	178.6	169.1	18797	21780	20622
Orissa	219.5	234.5	234.5	5716	5466	5466
Tamil Nadu	3311.4	4345.7	4345.7	12139	14554	14554
Tripura	4.7	4.7	4.7	500	500	500
West Bengal	310.3	274.4	279.4	14706	12704	12095
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	85.3	85.4	85.4	3496	3500	3500
Lakshadweep	26.3	26.0	26,5	9393	9206	9464
Pondicherry	27.7	34.1	33.8	14579	16238	16095
All India	11974.7	13299.6	13967.9	7324	7760	7779